

Date: Sat, 10 Jul 93 13:08:22 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #841
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Sat, 10 Jul 93 Volume 93 : Issue 841

Today's Topics:

"Necessary features" and the FT-5200 (was Re: Repeater coordination, complaints?)
 6 meter CW info
 Help hooking up pk232
 Mac Morse Code Program & sources available
 Questions on HTs
 rsgb gb2rs news 11th july
 VE Test Conditions
 Want to help a friend (QSO with Bosnia).
 Yaesu FT-530 or Alinco DJ-580T? (2 msgs)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Sat, 10 Jul 1993 15:04:37 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!neoucom.edu!
wtm@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: "Necessary features" and the FT-5200 (was Re: Repeater coordination,
complaints?)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Re: the FT-5100 / FT-5200. PL decode is a very, very good idea if
you live in a large city. That is, unless you like to hear lots of
bing-bong-da-da-da... from pager supurious and intermod.

Both the 5100 and 5200 have too wide a font end to avoid pager
intermod.

My power meter seems to suggest that the 5100 does ~40 watts on 2m and about 35 watts on 70cm when operated in crossband repeat mode. The PL decode is very useful in this case. Yes, you can make a band reject filter. It isn't very difficult, but does require doing some real math and actually picking up a soldering iron. It Depends on whether you like to talk or tinker which solution is best for you.

--

Bill Mayhew NEOUCOM Computer Services Department
Rootstown, OH 44272-9995 USA phone: 216-325-2511
wtm@uhura.neoucom.edu amateur radio 146.58: N8WED/AA

Date: 10 Jul 93 18:47:08 GMT
From: gatech!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!hobbes.physics.uiowa.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!usenet-feed.umd.edu!cnews@RUTGERS.EDU
Subject: 6 meter CW info
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <C9xE61.Dz2@news.Hawaii.Edu> mike@Hawaii.Edu () writes:

>
> Aloha.
>
> I am a lapsed ham. I was thinking about getting back into it,

> 1. Is CW still alive and well?

Definately busier than ever. 40 meters is a bit too busy. People are a bit less rude while doing CW.

> 2. What is six meters like these days?
Slow but still breathing.

> 3. What about 10 meters?
Much better.

> 4. Any recommendation on rigs that are small, can be powered
> by a motorcycle battery and will work 20 meters up to 6 meters?
No.

Paul Craven KG0DZ

Date: Sat, 10 Jul 93 15:13:36 GMT

From: sequent!muncher.sequent.com!washer@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Help hooking up pk232
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This is another request for info on hooking up a pk232 to a ts440. Someone posted an article a while back about problems with the ts440 staying keyed after transmit... Did anyone save the article???? I need it.

tia

- jim kg7hh washer@sequent.com 1-503-578-3171

Date: 10 Jul 93 09:31:57 -0700
From: swrinde!gatech!howland.reston.ans.net!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!
hamblin.math.byu.edu!yvax.byu.edu!loganj@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Mac Morse Code Program & sources available
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

A Macintosh (System 7 only) Morse Code program and sources are available by anonymous ftp from "bert.cs.byu.edu" (128.187.2.20). Needs more work, but that's it for now.

Regards,
Jim Logan

Date: 10 Jul 93 18:49:24 GMT
From: gatech!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!hobbes.physics.uiowa.edu!
moe.ksu.ksu.edu!usenet-feed.umn.edu!cnews@RUTGERS.EDU
Subject: Questions on HTs
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jul9.145825.8422@cnsvox.uwec.edu> writes:

> Hi-

> Has anyone had experience with Radio Shack's 2m Handie Talkie?

>

> I'm a bit new to all of this (I had my Novice 10ish years ago,
> dropped out, and am begining again as a No Code tech... yep, I'm
> going to be going for code sometime RSN...)

>

> Anyhow, if there are other HTs that are noteworthy (and
Cheapish...

> I'm looking for something around \$350,) I'd appreciate any info.

>

> Thanks and 73's

> -mw-

I have love the Yaesu FT-415 hand held. It ran just under \$350. If you don't care about CTCSS decode, DTMF squelch, and other doo-dads, go with the cheaper 411. It is just a bit bigger, but is much cheaper, and still a good radio.

Paul Craven, KG0DZ

Date: Sat, 10 Jul 1993 07:14:14 GMT
From: swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!uwm.edu!caen!destroyer!cs.ubc.ca!alberta!adec23!ve6mgs!usenet@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: rsgb gb2rs news 11th july
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Good morning. It's Sunday the 11th of July and here is the GB2RS news broadcast, prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

First the headlines: We have news of some 50MHz award successes; the RSGB EMC Helpline is no longer needed; and deadlines are imminent for Young Amateur of the Year nominations and for AMSAT-UK Colloquium booking.

The RSGB marks operating successes by sponsoring various award schemes. Among the Society's VHF and UHF Certificates awarded recently was the first ever RSGB 50MHz Certificate to go to the holder of a UK Novice License. This was issued to Pat Williams, 2E1AFN, when she claimed the 50MHz 10 Countries Two-way Award. Congratulations also go to Geoff Brown, GJ4ICD, who was issued with the first certificate for having the grand total of 450 squares confirmed on the 50MHz band. If you would like further details of the VHF/UHF award scheme, information sheets and application forms may be obtained from the RSGB VHF/UHF Awards Manager Ian Cornes, G4OUT on receipt of a stamped, self addressed envelope. G4OUT address is correct in the RSGB Call Book.

Due to the success of the RSGB's EMC Co-ordinator scheme and the publication of the Society's new EMC manual, 'The Radio Amateurs Guide to EMC', the EMC Helpline has been found to be no longer necessary. The Helpline will, therefore be closed down. EMC is Electromagnetic Compatibility or in plain English not interfering with your neighbours' electronic equipment, or vice-versa. RSGB members who have EMC problems which they cannot solve themselves should contact their EMC co-ordinator whose telephone number can be found in the RSGB Call Book, and also on page 59 of the June 1992 issue of Radio Communication. If a problem cannot be dealt with by the co-ordinator he or she will call on the advice of a committee member who specialises in that particular type of problem.

Now a reminder that the deadline for nominations for the 1993 Young Amateur of the Year Award is the 31st of July. Full details of this prestigious award,

and the associated prizes, can be found in the April RadCom, or can be obtained by writing straight away to the Project YEAR Coordinator c/o RSGB HQ.

The AMSAT-UK Colloquium takes place at the University of Surrey on the 29th of July to the 2nd of August. For reasons of University security, this is an all-ticket event. Anyone wishing to attend this fascinating event, and who has not already booked, should contact AMSAT-UK within the next two days on 081 989 6741.

Now some items of HF DX news from the weekly RSGB DX News Sheet which is edited by Brendan McCartney, G4DY0. From the Cayman Islands, WA6VNR and N6RLE will sign ZF2AH and ZF2JT respectively from now until Tuesday the 13th of July. From Tuvalu, JF2MBF will sign T28JJ from now, until Tuesday the 20th of July on the HF bands, activity to including some RTTY. From the British Virgin Islands, K8CFU will be active as VP2V/K8CFU from now, until Thursday the 22nd of July, mainly on 20m. From Liechtenstein, a group of French operators will be active as HB0/own-callsigns from Saturday the 17th of July for one week, on 80 to 10 metres, but excluding the WARC bands.

We know of two rallies taking place today, Sunday the 11th of July:

The Horncastle Amateur Radio Electronic and Computing Fair is being held at the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Sports Hall, Horncastle, Lincolnshire. The event features clubs stands and a bring & buy stall. Catering facilities are available on site, run by the Horncastle Youth Club staff and members. Talk-in will be on channel S22. The Sussex Amateur Radio and Computer Fair is being held at Brighton Racecourse. Doors open at 10.30am. There are trade stands and a bring and buy stall. Refreshments are available and there is also a picnic area close by.

We know of only one rally for next weekend:

The Radio Society of Great Britain National Mobile Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of July at Woburn Park, near the famous Abbey in Bedfordshire. Leave the M1 via junction 13, whether arriving from the North or South and not 12 as signposted, and follow the signposts to Woburn Abbey. Watch out for the RSGB signs. Do not follow the signs to the Game Reserve or the Wild Animal Kingdom. Doors open at 10.00am. The rally features a large trade exhibition, an RSGB Bookstall and enquiries stand, a BARTG stall and a members mart area all under cover. All the normal Woburn attractions will be available at a small extra charge. Refreshments are available nearby. See July Radcom page 41 for full details and a map of the surrounding area. For further information contact Norman Miller, G3MVB on 0277 225563.

HF contest news now:

The Colombian Independence Contest will take place from 0000 to 2400 hours on

Saturday the 17th of July. Contest exchange is the report plus the serial QSO number from 001, on 3.5 to 28MHz. Categories are SSB or CW but not mixed. See July RadCom page 12 for further information. The RSGB Low Power Field Day Contest will take place on Sunday the 18th of July, from 0900 to 1200GMT and 1300 to 1600GMT. This is CW only on 3510 to 3560kHz and 7010 to 7040kHz. See July RadCom page 81 for the power output categories and equipment special conditions

VHF contest news:

The RSGB 144MHz Low Power Contest will take place on Saturday the 24th from 1400 to 2200GMT. It features four entry sections: single operator fixed, single operator portable, all others and short wave listener. The RSGB 432MHz Low Power Contest will take place on Sunday the 25th of July from 0800 to 1400GMT. February RadCom on page 66 has further details of both of these events.

News now of a special event station:

Starting on Thursday the 22nd of July, for six days the callsign GB70CT will be aired by the Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Society. The occasion is the 70th anniversary of the Loughborough Carillon War Memorial, a free standing bell tower 152 feet high. Further details can be obtained from Alan, G0PHT who address is correct in the Call Book. This event is also featured on page 5 of the July RadCom.

And here is the solar factual data

The period from the 28th June to the 4th of July saw an enhancement of the HF bands up to the 30th. This was followed by a collapse to poor conditions due to the passage of coronal holes and a series of M type flares. The largest was an M4.3/2B on the 2nd July. A magnetic sub-storm resulted which depressed the HF bands. The sun spot count has generally declined and meaned at 99. There has been a similar decline in solar flux which averaged 114 units. The geomagnetic Ap indices started at quiet levels but, with the flares, levels climbed to sub-storm reaching 27 units on the 2nd. The period averaged 16.4 units. The state has been 'quiet' then later in the period 'Magstorm in progress'. The radio quality indices improved to very good up to the 30th with the enhancement, then collapsed to poor levels with the 2nd and 3rd being down to very poor on all circuits. For the 22nd to the 28th of June the geomagnetic aa indices ranged from quiet to unsettled. The 22nd and 28th were at quiet levels, down to 9 nanoTeslas, and the 24th and 25th were unsettled up to 47.2. The period averaged 20.6 nanoTeslas. The X-Ray flux has been reasonably steady and averaged B3.0. The sun spot count for June was RI 49.1 with the smoothed index for December 1992 being 73.1+-5.

Now the ionospheric data for Central France:

There has been a series of equipment breakdowns so data this week is not complete. The F2 daytime critical frequencies at Poitiers as reported by Meudon averaged 7.2MHz though levels ranged from 8.8MHz on the 29th down to 6.1MHz on the 4th. The darkness hour lows averaged 4.7MHz.

Now the ionospheric data for the north:

The F2 daytime critical frequencies at Ekaterinberg averaged 6.7MHz and the darkness hour lows 5.3MHz. Solar cycle 22 is declining so rapidly that the official forecasting of the ionospheric IF2/12 and the IG/12 spot index is causing concern. The answers coming out based on comparison with previous cycles shows that the rate of decline of cycle 22 is at least ahead by one year. The importance of this is considerable as the basis of almost all CCIR based ionospheric forecasts use these parameters.

And lastly the solar forecast:

This week, the quiet side of the sun will be looking our way, and no flares are expected. Flux levels are expected to be about the 85s. The geomagnetic activity is expected to be quiet. Ionospheric radio quality indices are expected to be normal based on previous rotations.

And that is the end of the solar information.

Finally in the main news, SSL has informed the Society that as of last Wednesday morning, the latest callsigns issued were in the G0 T W and G7 O X series, and Novice calls in the 2 0 A F and 2 1 B Y series.

You're listening to GB2RS, the news broadcasting service of the Radio Society of Great Britain, transmitting in the 80, 40, 6 and 2 metre bands.

Date: 10 Jul 93 19:33:27 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: VE Test Conditions
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>Although I successfully passed the Extra Class license elements (hooray!), I
>am appalled at the noise level allowed at the two separate testing sites I
>attended. Without mentioning any names or affiliations, I will just say that
>the first site I attended was virtually a party, with plenty of talking,
>chatter, and laughing on the parts of both the examinees (who were not, at
>that moment, being examined) and the VE's themselves.

Radio-Club-itis. Bet you'll find the chatty folks are the same ones that chat through club meetings and movies and all that. The problem seems to start

during that time after registration and until the exams come in to be graded. these folks have nothing to do while they are waiting so they start talking about the next field day or the dx contest or who they worked on the satellite etc. in some cases, these same people behave exactly the same way when involved in things like marathons or parades or other communications work - and you try to have a meeting to organize things that turns into a meeting where the chair cannot control the floor.

i know i've had people complain about my desire for a rigorous approach to running an exam session but those also go faster and you get done quicker than the "relaxed, friendly" atmosphere that some would have. I don't work well in those environments since it's too easy for me to get wrapped up in a side discussion and fail to observe the testing.

>At the second site the noise was not as bad, but how could any noise be
>allowed at a testing site? This is an examination, where concentration is
>required (for many of us!). This is NOT a party nor a place to discuss radio
>equipment.

you are correct. you should make a request of the examiners (if you can get their attention to do so) to knock it off. it's very easy to get tied up in "radio-club-itis" without even thinking. since i started doing liaison work with the group here, i have noticed there are pairs and triples of examiners that seem to be more prone to this behavior than others. it can help if the VE team has members that have hearing loss requiring the VE team to talk at least at "normal" levels instead of whispers.

there are, however, reasons the VE team will need to communicate with each other so it's not going to be absolutely quiet once things begin.

i think it was about 4 or 5 months ago that we had to have a bad "combination" do one of the groups (novice/tech written exam, 2nd room has everything else). if i remember right, the VEs had all just gotten back from extensive trips in the last week and they wanted to talk about their travels...almost couldn't get a word in edgewise.

>Any other experiences? Is this common?

VE teams have to stay focused on why they are there. got to drop discussions about the repeater and the club and all that -- it might help if there's a VE net the night before the exam such that the VE team can get all the discussion out of their system the day before (a lot of the chatter seems to be "good to see you - haven't seen you since last month -- how's it going?" stuff.).

if time permits, meet at a McDonalds or something and have a breakfast/dinner meeting before going to the exam room to get the examiners "talked out".

bill wb9ivr

Date: Sat, 10 Jul 1993 15:01:50 GMT
From: world!sharon@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Want to help a friend (QSO with Bosnia).
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <rvenka.741990968@fnugget> rvenka@fnugget.intel.com (Radha Venkataraman) writes:

>I am trying to help a Bosnian friend at work. His family is still in Bosnia,
>and would like to help him communicate with folks back in Bosnia. Are there
>any active hams in Bosina (at least in the region) ? Any help will be
>appreciated.

>

>73's

>Radha Venkataraman

>KB7IHO

There have been hams active throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina since the start of the war. In fact, in many besieged Bosnian communities, hams are the ONLY source of information -- the ONLY link with the rest of the world. Hams have passed thousands of messages in and out of Bosnia, so people in the rest of the world could find out if their loved ones in Bosnia are still alive. Serbian forces have cut regular phone lines in and out of most of the territories they are besieging (although in some cases phones within those cities still work, it is impossible to call in and out of those cities).

Ham-radio reports are also the only way that international relief agencies have received news of conditions in besieged "safe havens" (a sick joke, they are probably the most miserable, dangerous places in the world right now) such as Gorazde. There have been numerous references to these ham-radio reports in news stories about the war.

Most of the health and welfare traffic has been done by other European hams, particularly in the rest of what is/was Yugoslavia -- that's where a large number of people with family still in Bosnia are located, of course. In addition, many of the Bosnian hams simply cannot run the kind of power or antennas needed to reach the States -- particularly those operating from Bosnian-government controlled territory, where electric supplies have been very sporadic. They are operating under imaginable conditions, often right near the front lines when Serbian gunners are trying to look for and destroy their antenna systems, their stations -- and them. :-(Their efforts to keep lines of communication open have been absolutely heroic.

Hams from Bosnia-Herzegovina are still occasionally heard here in the States. About a month ago, there was electricity in Sarajevo for several hours a day for almost a week, coinciding with very good propagation conditions.

There were a number of hams from Sarajevo working Stateside stations that week. Now, if you have been following news reports, there is almost no electricity at all in the city -- even the hospital is virtually out of generator fuel, so patients are dying because life-support equipment cannot operate; there's almost no power left for water pumps -- there is no running water at all, so people must walk miles and wait for hours to get their allotted half-gallon of water each day (in near 100-degree heat, this is all they may have to drink and try to clean themselves, clothes, etc). Under such conditions, it's hard to imagine there is any kind of spare electricity available to power radio stations or packet. However, even if a ham managed to connect to a car battery and get on the air, (s)he could not help with passing health and welfare traffic -- the breakdown of emergency electricity supplies has shut down the local telephone switching station, so none of the local phones are working. Even if someone could contact a ham in Sarajevo, that ham could not then place a phone call to get information for you.

By the way, the needed diesel fuel that would meet Sarajevo's emergency electricity needs -- for the hospital, water pumps, and telephones -- is sitting at the Sarajevo airport, blocked by Serbian forces; despite the U.N. mandate allowing "all necessary means" to get humanitarian aid through, the U.N. is simply waiting for Serbian permission to allow the fuel in. Anyone reading this who wants to help our Sarajevo colleagues get back on the air might consider contacting your government, your government's mission to the United Nations, and U.N. headquarters in New York to call for stronger action to get that desperately needed fuel into the city.

Assuming, as I hope and pray, some electricity is restored to the city soon and hams are back on the air in Sarajevo, U.S. hams must keep in mind third-party traffic rules. Although it seems totally ridiculous to me that such things apply in and out of war zone; technically, it is still not allowed to pass messages on behalf of a non-ham here for a non-ham there. But there are a number of ways around this. For example, according to an FCC official, it is perfectly legal to tell a ham there "I am seeking information about so-and-so," so you can at least find out if the guy's family is OK. Or, you can enlist the help of a ham in Europe who can legally pass 3rd-party traffic in and out of Bosnia -- if that ham were also on Internet, for example, you could pass the messages in and out of Europe that way, with only the European ham using ham radio.

If the guy's family is somewhere besides Sarajevo, there may still be hams on the air. As I said before, very few of them are audible here in the States; but many more are active on 40m and 80m passing messages. Perhaps someone in Europe who reads this is active doing this and might be able to help you; or, I suppose, you could put out a message to a few European packet BBSs asking for help.

Good luck.

Sharon KC1YR

--

Sharon Machlis Gartenberg
Framingham, MA USA
e-mail: sharon@world.std.com

Date: Sat, 10 Jul 1993 15:53:56 GMT
From: swrinde!gatech!howland.reston.ans.net!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!neoucom.edu!
wtm@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Yaesu FT-530 or Alinco DJ-580T?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

My pick would be the Yaesu FT-530 over the Alinco DJ-580.
Apparently, the cost differential is not the primary concern on
your shopping list.

The FT-530 most certainly can be modified to cover GMRS and 800-900
frequencies as well as MARS/CAP for receive in all and transmit in
appropriate bands. If you get the 530, call Yaesu at the phone
number in the manual and have them fax or mail you the mod sheet.
It is quite easy; only involves changing some solder bridges inside
the radio. The 530 mods are also available at assorted FTP sites.

If you really want MARS/CAP stuff, you might take a look at
Standard HTs. At least some models can be programmed from the
keyboard via an abstruse ~25 keystroke sequence to add MARS/CAP and
other coverage. I've got a C528A which has been expanded. I don't
know about the other models. So, if you are averse to
disassembling your radio, consider these. Consult with your vendor
for available mods.

One nice thing about the Yaesu 530 is that it has a pretty nice
clearly written manual. That is something to think about if you
want to easily make use of all those complex features for which you
bought your HT.

--

Bill Mayhew NEOUCOM Computer Services Department
Rootstown, OH 44272-9995 USA phone: 216-325-2511
wtm@uhura.neoucom.edu amateur radio 146.58: N8WED/AA

Date: 10 Jul 1993 16:36:18 GMT
From: news!sun1.clark.net!andy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Yaesu FT-530 or Alinco DJ-580T?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Ooops! Sorry for the bad information on the Yaesu FT-530. Indeed it can be modified for extended coverage. The folks at the candy store should have known that, and should have advised me accordingly when I was deciding between it and the Alinco. The Yaesu was only \$25 more than the DJ-580. I just wish Yaesu had mentioned the possibility of expanded coverage in their brochure.

Date: Sat, 10 Jul 1993 19:07:29 GMT
From: anomaly.sbs.com!kd1nr@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <93187.185942U42157@uicvm.uic.edu>,
<930707.180452.5j2.rusnews.w165w@garlic.sbs.com>, <21ijmi\$sra@lester.appstate.edu>
Subject : Re: callbook

HOFFMANMK@CONRAD.APPSTATE.EDU (Marvin Hoffman) writes:

>In <930707.180452.5j2.rusnews.w165w@garlic.sbs.com> system@garlic.sbs.com
>writes:
>> Actually you have several options:
>>
>> 1) Buffalo Callsign Server
>> telnet to callsign.cs.buffalo.edu 2000
>> at the >> prompt you type CALL and the callsign you want to lookup.
>>
>> 2) NJ Inst. of Tech
>> telnet to ham.njit.edu (not sure on the port number)
>> Same format as Buffalo
>>
>> 3) For some real fun, Anomaly!
>> telnet 155.212.2.2 (anomaly.sbs.com for the clueless)
>> login as HAMRADIO, you'll be prompted for your callsign. You then
>> have access to the Anomaly callsign server and several hundred meg of
>> ham-related files that are FTP'able....

>Can someone confirm that #3 has a valid address?

Woops, I goofed it should be telnet to ns.risc.net. I'm so used to calling it anomaly.sbs.com that I forgot to post the right addr. Sorry about that.

> I have tried to telnet tonight to both the numerical address and the
> anomaly.sbs.com and my system says that neither can be found on internet.

> Some help, please, I would like to look at the several hundred meg of ham-
> related files.

Tony, KD1NR

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #841
